

- Academic staff colleges established for re-orientation of newly appointed university and college teachers.
- 27 Curriculum Development Centres in Sciences and Humanities established to modernise curricula. Model curricula has been prepared for 27 disciplines in under-graduate and post-graduate courses.
- Financial assistance provided by UGC for improvement of teaching and research under Special Assistance Programmes.
- Inter-University Centres established by UGC to provide front-line facilities and services for advancement of research in the university system.
- Higher priority given to grant of autonomy to selected colleges.
- Guidelines for implementation of and Academic Calendar circulated. These guidelines emphasize observance of at least 180 teaching days by universities/ colleges.
- Regulations for minimum standards for the award of first degree, minimum working days etc. notified by UGC.

[Translation]

Navodaya Vidyalaya in Ghatampur

2248. SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to set up Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya at Ghatampur in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) A proposal for opening of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya at Village Jaghagirabad, Tehsil Ghatampur alongwith some other alternative sites, in District Kanpur Dehat was received from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh. This proposal is however not as per norms of the Samiti in respect of temporary accommodation. State Government has been requested to send a suitable proposal fulfilling Samiti's requirements.

[English]

Indians in the Jails of Gulf Countries

2249. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that large number of Indians are languishing in various jails of Gulf countries; and

(b) if so, the number of such Indians Country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b) Government are aware that a number of Indian nationals are in jail in Gulf countries. According to our records, as on 30.11.1996 the country-wise break up of Indians in jails in Gulf countries is as follows :

1. Bahrain	82
2. Iraq	3
3. Kuwait	135
4. Oman	38
5. Qatar	383
6. Saudi Arabia	1169
7. U A E	144
8. Yemen	3

[Translation]

Conference on Reservation in Delhi University

2250. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any conference on reservation in Delhi University organised in December, 1996 or January, 1997; and

(b) the decisions taken in the said conference and the outlines of their implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Project on Construction Engineering

2251. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Soil and Materials Research Station, Delhi has awarded a project on Construction Engineering to Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi;

(b) whether IIT, Delhi has entrusted the job to a relatively junior Faculty member; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and steps taken by the Government to uplift the standard of handling consultancy projects by IIT, Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) No project on Construction Engineering has been awarded to Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi by Central Soil and Materials Research Station, Delhi. However, the Indian National Committee for Construction Materials and structures (Ministry of Water Resources) has awarded a research project on Micro-structure Modelling of Pozzolanic Construction Materials in May 1996. Dr. B. Bhattacharjee, Associate Professor who has been instrumental in setting up the Building Materials Lab in Civil Engineering Department is the principal investigator.

Family Welfare Programmes

2252. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the progress made in family welfare programme is upto the mark in the country;

(b) if not, whether the Government proposal to take any steps in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) As a result of implementation of the Family Welfare Programme, the birth rate has declined from 41.7 per thousand population over the decade 1951-61 to 28.3 in 1995. The total Fertility Rate has declined from 5.97 over 1951-61 to 3.5 in 1993. The infant Mortality Rate has declined from 146 over 1951-61 to 74 per thousand live births in 1995. It is estimated that as a result of the Family Welfare Programme 197-39 million births have been averted upto March, 1996.

(b) and (c) The current focus of the Programme is on decentralisation and improvement in the quality of services. The system of setting contraceptive targets from the top has replaced by decentralised planning of services at the level of Primary Health Centre.

Funds for Boat Jetties

2253. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any existing scheme for providing funds for modernising and maintaining the boat jetties;

(b) if so, the funds allotted to Kerala for the above purpose during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government propose to undertake the developmental activities of any jetties in the National Waterway in Kerala; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Funds allotted to Kerala for implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes during the last three years are as under :—

	(Rs. in crores)
1993-94	0.50
1994-95	0.02
1995-96	0.33

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Development of jetties/terminals at 12 locations viz Kottapuram, Kochi, Ernakulam, Aluva, Kakkanadu, Vaikom, Cherthala, Alappuzha, Thirukkunnappuzha, Kayamkulam, Chavara and Kollam on National Waterway in Kerala is proposed to be undertaken during 9th plan period.

Funds for Education to Minority Communities

2254. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recently received a Memorandum from dignitaries of the Minority Communities on plan allocation for educational development of the educationally backward and deprived Minority communities;

(b) if so, the main suggestions made in the Memorandum; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Main suggestions made in the memorandum are :

(i) Establishment of schools under the Area Intensive Scheme of development of minority institutions and modernisation of Madarsa Education. As Special case and in relaxation of normal rules, the requirement of recommendations of the State Governments could be dispensed with and the schemes could be transferred to some NGOs.

(ii) Establishment of Urdu University.